

Ecolab Inc.

Mail Stop ESC-F7 655 Lone Oak Drive Eagan, Minnesota 55121

FAX TRANSMISSION PLEASE HANDLE IMMEDIATELY IF COPY IS ILLEGIBLE OR INCOMPLETE, PLEASE CONTACT THE SENDER

(including this page) Page(s)

TO:

Mail Stop Amendment

Fax:

1-571-273-8300 (Central Fax)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM:

Anneliese M. Seifert

Phone:

651-795-5661

Senior Patent Attorney

Fax:

651-204-7507

E-mail:

anneliese.seifert@ecolab.com

Title of Document Transmitted:

Reply to Restriction Requirement

Preliminary Amendment

Applicant: Serial No.:

Filed:

Group Art Unit:

Our Ref. No.: Conf. No.

Fine et al. 10/826,825

April 16, 2004

1751

163.1630USI1

1732

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501257. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date

This facsimile may contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, which may also be LEGALLY PRIVILEGED, and which is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this facsimile is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby on notice that you are in possession of the confidential or privileged information. Any dissemination, distribution or copying of this facsimile is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone (collect) and return the original facsimile to the sender at the above address via the U.S. Postal Service.